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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: M. Blaum et al. Examiner: Natalia Figueroa
Serial No.: 10/037,753 Group Art Unit: 2651
Filed: January 2, 2002 Docket No.: TUC920010037US1
TITLE: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING DATA TO GUARANTEE
ISOLATED TRANSITIONS IN A MAGNETIC RECORDING SYSTEM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 29, 2004.

David W. Victor

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the non-final office action dated July 29, 2004 ("Office Action") in which the Examiner found that claims 2, 9-23, 26, 31-33, 36, and 43-57 would be allowed if written in independent form including the requirements of the base and any intervening claims and rejected claims 1, 3-8, 24, 25, 27-30, 34, 35, 37-42, and 58 as either anticipated (35 U.S.C. §102(e)) or obvious (35 U.S.C. §103) in view of prior art. Applicants rewrote certain of the allowable claims to place in condition for allowance and added new claim 59. Applicants traverse the prior art rejections and submit that all pending claims are patentable over the cited art for the reasons discussed herein.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3.

Amendments to the drawings begin on page 12 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13.

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